

SUMMARY OF ISRAELI ROAD MAP VIOLATIONS SINCE ANNAPOLIS

27 November 2007 - 6 November 2008

Since the parties renewed their respective commitments under the Road Map at the Annapolis Conference on 27 November 2007, Israel has failed to implement any of its Road Map obligations thus far. Following is a summary of Israeli Road Map violations in the first nine months since Annapolis, during which many serious Israeli violations took place with respect to: (1) settlement activity, (2) attacks against Palestinians and their property, (3) internal closures, (4) Jerusalem institutions, and (5) other Road Map obligations.

I. SETTLEMENT ACTIVITY

Among Israel's primary Road Map obligations is to "*freeze all settlement activity (including natural growth of settlements).*" Far from being "frozen", however, Israeli settlement activity throughout the West Bank actually intensified in the eleven months since Annapolis in virtually all areas—from planning to authorization to construction—particularly in and around East Jerusalem.

A. Settlement Construction

Settlement construction, including both housing and infrastructure, continued at an accelerated pace throughout the West Bank, particularly in and around East Jerusalem.

1. Construction Projects

- The Israeli Ministry of Construction and Housing currently identifies construction projects in at least nine "urban" settlements in the West Bank (including East Jerusalem), totalling **4,674 settlement housing units**.¹ Some **92 percent** of these are in **Metropolitan Jerusalem**, with 43 percent in Har Homa alone. Following is a breakdown of current settlement construction projects:

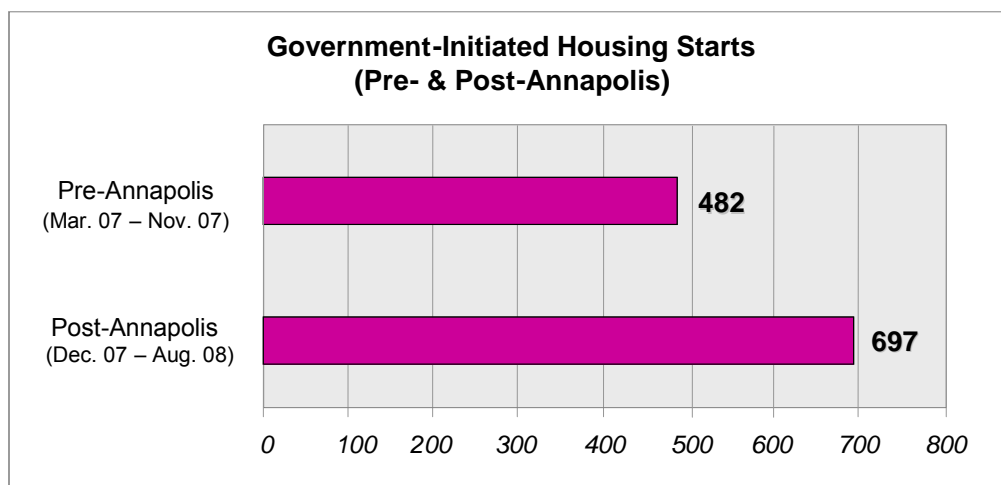
Settlement	Governorate	# Housing Units	# Sold
Alfe Menashe	Qalqilya	200	117
Ariel	Salfit	130	71
Betar 'Illit	Bethlehem	540	372
Efrata	Bethlehem	102	77
Geva' Binyamin (Adam)	Jerusalem	180	104
Giv'at Ze'ev	Jerusalem	546	61
Har Homa	Jerusalem	1,814	982
Ma'ale Adumim	Jerusalem	944	425
Qarne Shomron	Salfit	30	0
		4,674	2,209

¹ Available figures are only for "urban" construction (*i.e.*, settlement municipal and local councils, but not regional councils). Available at: <http://www.moch.gov.il/Moch/ProjektayBniya.htm> (accessed on 5 November 2008).

- Overall, according to Peace Now, construction has continued in **at least 101 settlements** (*excluding* Jerusalem-area settlements) in the months since Annapolis.

2. Housing Starts

- Government-initiated construction: Government-sponsored construction in the settlements increased dramatically after Annapolis. According to official data, the Israeli Ministry of Construction and Housing began construction on **at least 697 new housing units** in West Bank settlements in the nine months after the Annapolis Conference (Dec. 07 – Aug. 08), as indicated in the table below.² This is an **increase of 45 percent** over the nine-month period prior to Annapolis, during which the government initiated construction on 482 units (Note: Figures do *not* include publicly-initiated construction in settlements in and around East Jerusalem).



- Privately-initiated construction: Construction initiated by the private sector in West Bank settlements proceeded at a similar pace. For example, during the first half of 2008 (Jan. 08 – Jun. 08), private construction began on **500 settlement housing units**, which is a **36 percent increase** over the 369 units initiated in the first half of 2007.³ (Note: Figures do *not* include privately-initiated settlement construction in and around East Jerusalem.)

3. Roads and Infrastructure

- Throughout the reporting period, construction work continued on three major settlement infrastructure projects in and around Jerusalem:
 - Excavation work for **three tunnels** adjacent to **Al-Aqsa Mosque compound** (Haram al-Sharif) in Jerusalem's Old City and the neighborhood of Silwan.

² Ministry of Construction and Housing, "Housing Starts Initiated by Ministry of Construction and Housing, By District - Urban and Rural Areas," (Table A.7(A)); "Housing Completions Initiated by Ministry of Construction and Housing, By District - Urban and Rural Areas," (Table A.8(A)). Available at: <http://www.moch.gov.il/MOCH/MonthlyBulletin/boards.htm> (accessed on 5 November 2008).

³ Israeli Central Bureau of Statistics, Monthly Bulletin of Statistics, "Dwellings, by Construction Initiator and District" (Table O/4). Available at: http://www1.cbs.gov.il/reader/yarhon/yarmenu_e_new.html (accessed 5 Nov. 2008).

- The northern section of the **Jerusalem Ring Road** (Rd. # 20), which will connect to the eastern ring road via the newly built settler bypass road around `Anata and Az-Zaim.
- The first phase of the **Jerusalem Light Rail** (currently concentrated in the Shu'fat and Shaykh Jarrah areas), which is aimed at linking the settlements of Pisgat Ze'ev, Neve Ya'kov and French Hill with West Jerusalem.
- Road and infrastructure preparation also continued in the **E-1 expansion area** between East Jerusalem and Ma'ale Adumim settlement, particularly in relation to the **newly constructed police headquarters** in the eastern part of E-1, which was officially inaugurated on May 19. The new police station, the second to be built inside the E-1 area, will replace the one located in Ras al-Amud neighbourhood in East Jerusalem, which in turn was handed over to settler groups for their use.

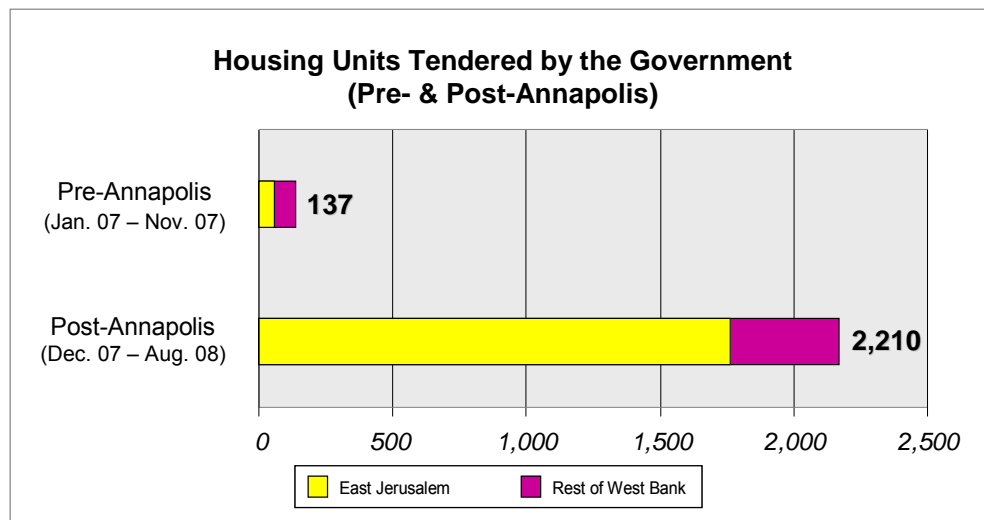
4. The Wall

Work on the Wall, which is an integral component of Israel's settlement enterprise, along with its supporting infrastructure, continued in several places throughout the West Bank, particularly in the Jerusalem area and in the southern West Bank. According to UN-OCHA, as of 11 September, approximately **57 percent** (415 km) of the 723 km planned route of the Wall had been completed, with another 9 percent currently under construction.⁴

B. Settlement Authorization and Planning

1. Tenders

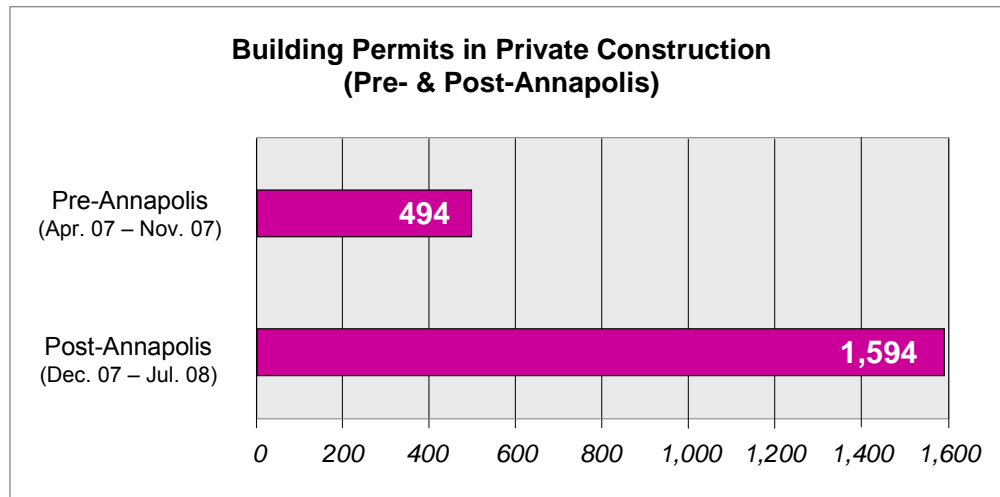
Government tenders for settlement construction, primarily in and around East Jerusalem, have reached record highs since Annapolis. In the eleven months since Annapolis, Israeli authorities have issued 18 tenders for settlement construction, totalling **2,210 new housing units**, which is **more than 16 times as many** housing units tendered in the 11 months prior to Annapolis (see graph below). Moreover, **80 percent** of these are in settlements located in East Jerusalem, as compared with 34 percent during the 11 months prior to Annapolis.



⁴ UN-OCHA, "Closure Update: Occupied Palestinian Territory" (30 April – 11 September 2008).

2. Building Permits

In terms of privately-initiated construction, the Israeli government issued building permits for **at least 1,594 housing units** in West Bank settlements (*excluding* those in and around East Jerusalem) in the first eight months after Annapolis (Dec. 07 – Jul. 08), **more than three times** as many as the 494 permits issued in the eight-month period prior to Annapolis.⁵



3. Other Plans and Approvals

Even as settlement construction intensified on the ground, Israeli authorities continued to authorize and plan for thousands of additional housing units for settlements throughout the West Bank:

- In East Jerusalem alone, Israeli authorities have advanced plans for **nearly 10,000 housing units** in Israeli settlements since Annapolis. Of these:
 - Town planning schemes for **4,370 housing units** in East Jerusalem settlements have been approved and are ready for immediate implementation, including in East Talpiot (620 units), Har Homa (2,653 units), Pisgat Ze'ev (759 units), Ramot (338 units) and Gilo (hotels and residences).⁶
 - **5,247 units** were submitted for public review, including in the settlements of East Talpiot (104 units), Giv'at HaMatos (3,150 units), Neve Ya'aqov (393 units) and Ramot (1,600 units).⁷
- Similar plans are being approved elsewhere in the West Bank as well:
 - In the first six months after Annapolis (Dec 07 – May 08), Israeli Defense Minister Ehud Barak approved the construction of **at least 946 housing units** in several West Bank settlements, including Ariel, Avenat, Betar 'Illit, Elqana,

⁵ Israeli Central Bureau of Statistics, "Construction Area, Buildings and Dwellings Approved in Private Construction" (Table O/8). Available at: http://www.cbs.gov.il/yarhon/08_e.htm (accessed 4 November 2008).

⁶ Ir Amim Monitoring Report, "Negotiations toward an Accord on Jerusalem: Declarations vs. Actions," Apr 2008.

⁷ Ibid.

Efrata, Giv'at Ze'ev, Ma'ale Adumim, Modi'in 'Illit, Talmon, Negohot and Sha'are Tiqva.⁸

- An additional **750 units** in **Giv'at Zeev** were moved toward implementation on March 9 when Prime Minister Olmert approved the resumption of the construction project, which had been suspended since 2001. (Reuters, *Ha'aretz*)
- In early April, the Israeli Ministry of Construction and Housing presented a plan developed in coordination with the Prime Minister's Office to build **1,900 new settlement housing units in 2008** for settlers evacuated from Gaza in 2005. The plan calls for the construction of 158 housing units in Efrata, 682 in Betar 'Illit, 160 in Geva' Binyamin, 510 in Giv'at Ze'ev, 302 in Ma'ale Adumim, 48 in Qiryat Arba', and 48 in Ariel. (*Yedi'ot Ahranot*)

C. Settlement Outposts

Despite the Road Map's clear requirement that Israel "*immediately dismantle settlement outposts erected since March 2001,*" the Israeli government has failed to meet this obligation, or to take any meaningful action against the outposts since Annapolis. Indeed, rather than dismantle these nascent settlements, Israeli authorities are seeking ways to **legitimize or maintain the majority of these outposts.**

- Of the approximately 110 outposts in the West Bank, some 58 of which were established since March 2001, **none was dismantled** since Annapolis.⁹ Meanwhile, according to Peace Now, approximately **125 new structures** have been added to the outposts since Annapolis, including at least 30 permanent houses.
- The recent decision by the Israeli cabinet on November 3 to cut off funding and other direct government support for a handful of so-called "unauthorized" outposts, is **not** sufficient to satisfy Israeli obligations under the Road Map for two reasons:
 - Israeli authorities continue to speak of removing only "unauthorized" outposts (*i.e.*, those established in violation of Israeli domestic law), having identified only 26 such outposts, although the Road Map contains no such distinction.
 - Under an agreement previously reached between the Israeli Ministry of Defense and settler leaders, the evacuation of even these limited outposts would take place in exchange for their relocation to the large settlement "blocs" or to settlements near Jerusalem, along with government assurances to approve building permits and other expansion plans for more established settlements.

⁸ Peace Now, "The Death of the Settlement Freeze - 4 Months Since Annapolis," March 2008.

⁹ This does not include the handful of outposts removed by the Israeli army immediately or shortly after being established, or outposts that were only partially dismantled.

II. ATTACKS ON PALESTINIANS

Israel has also failed to meet its Road Map obligation to “*take no actions undermining trust, including deportations, attacks on civilians; confiscation and/or demolition of Palestinian homes and property, as a punitive measure or to facilitate Israeli construction; destruction of Palestinian institutions and infrastructure...*”

A. Palestinian Deaths and Injuries¹⁰

1. Palestinians Killed by Israeli Forces since Annapolis (28 Nov. 07 – 28 Oct. 08)

Location	Number of Deaths	Of which Children (%)
West Bank (including East Jerusalem)	55	12 (22%)
Gaza Strip	449	75 (17%)
Total	514	87 (17%)

2. Palestinians Injured by Israeli Forces since Annapolis (28 Nov. 07 – 28 Oct. 08)

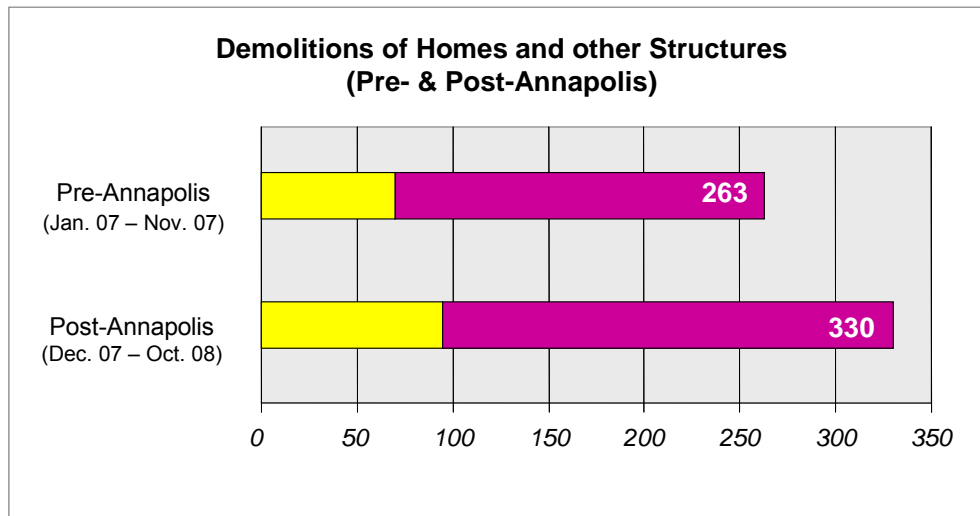
Location	Number of Injuries	Of which Children (%)
West Bank (including East Jerusalem)	1,098	322 (29%)
Gaza Strip	1,014	163 (16%)
Total	2,112	485 (23%)

B. Home Demolitions

Israeli demolitions of Palestinian homes have also intensified since Annapolis, particularly in and around East Jerusalem. According to the Israeli Committee Against Home Demolitions (ICAHAD), Israeli authorities have demolished at least **330 Palestinian homes** and other structures since Annapolis (28 Nov. 2007 – 6 Nov. 2008), 95 of them in East Jerusalem. This represents an overall **increase of 25 percent** over the 11-month period prior to Annapolis, as indicated in the graph below.

- From November 4-6, Israeli authorities demolished five Palestinian structures in East Jerusalem, including three homes in the Silwan neighbourhood, a home in Shu’fat and a wedding hall in Beit Hanina. The Israeli demolitions resulted in the **displacement of more than 20 Palestinians**, most of them children. The demolitions in Silwan are part of a group of more than 80 homes that received demolition orders in June 2005 in order to build a park adjacent to the **proposed settlement of Ir David**, where numerous Palestinian homes have already been seized by Israeli settlers. While the demolitions were subsequently suspended by Israel’s Attorney General following widespread international protests, they were never cancelled and are now being implemented. If carried out, the demolitions would result in the displacement of around 1,000 Palestinians, including more than 700 children, making it one of the largest mass demolitions of Palestinian homes in Jerusalem since the destruction of the Maghariba Quarter of the Old City in June 1967.

¹⁰ United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN-OCHA) Protection of Civilians database: <http://www.ochaopt.org/pocl> (accessed on 5 November 2008).



C. Residency Revocations

Recent statistics on the number of Palestinian ID/residency revocations since Annapolis are not yet available. However, according to the most recent available data, the number of Jerusalem-area Palestinians who had their residency rights revoked by Israel increased sharply in 2006 to **1,363**, more than for the previous six years combined and more than any single year since 1967.¹¹

III. INTERNAL CLOSURES

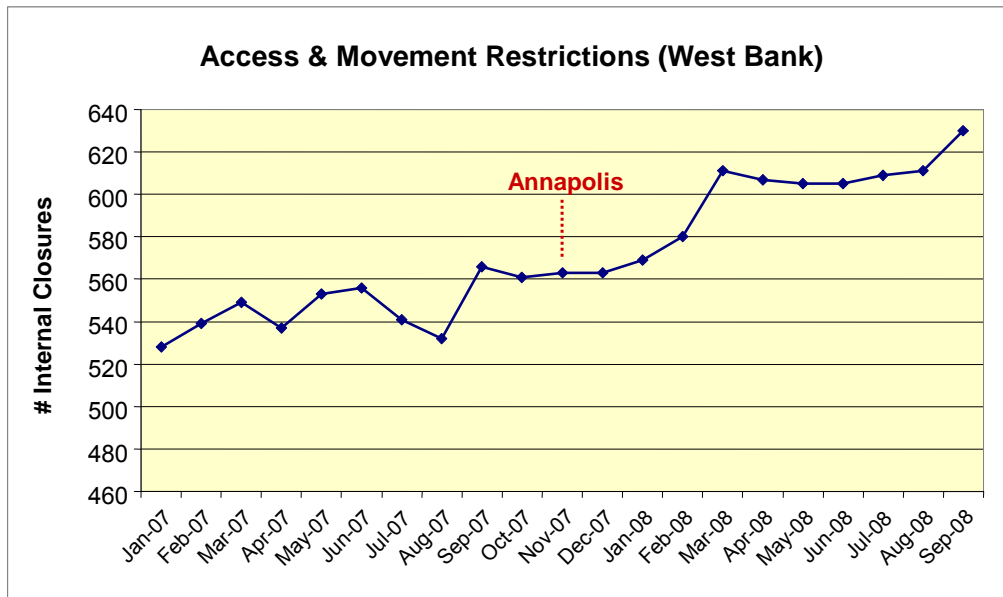
Israeli-imposed internal movement and access restrictions on the Palestinian population have steadily increased since the Gaza evacuation of August 2005, a trend that has continued since the Annapolis Conference in November 2007 (see graph below):

- During the period between 30 April and 11 September 2008, Israel had established some **630 checkpoints, roadblocks and other physical barriers** to Palestinian movement throughout the West Bank, including 93 manned checkpoints.¹² This represents a net increase of 12 percent since Annapolis (Nov. 2007) and a **68 percent increase** since August 2005.
- Meanwhile, the weekly average of random (or “flying”) checkpoints **increased by 35 percent** between 30 April and 11 September as compared with the previous four months, from 66 per week to 89 per week.¹³

¹¹ Israeli Information Center for Human Rights in the Occupied Territories (B’Tselem)

¹² UN-OCHA, “Closure Update: Occupied Palestinian Territory”(30 April – 11 September 2008).

¹³ Ibid.



IV. JERUSALEM INSTITUTIONS

Whereas the Road Map requires Israel to *“reopen the Palestinian Chamber of Commerce and other closed Palestinian institutions in East Jerusalem,”* since Annapolis, Israel’s Minister of Internal Security Avi Dichter **has twice renewed the closure of all 10 Palestinian institutions**, including Orient House, first on February 8 and again on August 5.

V. OTHER OBLIGATIONS

The Road Map requires the Israeli government to issue an *“unequivocal statement affirming its commitment to the two-state vision of an independent, viable, sovereign Palestinian state living in peace and security alongside Israel, as expressed by President Bush, and calling for an immediate end to violence against Palestinians everywhere.”*

Although the government of Ehud Olmert and that of his predecessor Ariel Sharon have accepted the goal of creating a Palestinian state, no Israeli leader or government has ever articulated a clear and unequivocal commitment to the establishment of an “independent, viable and sovereign” Palestinian state, as such.